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# Water Supply Outlook For Nevada



SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Cooperating with

NEVADA DEPARTMENT of CONSERVATION  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

AS OF  
APR. 1, 1979



## TO RECIPIENTS OF WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK REPORTS:

Most of the usable water in western states originates as mountain snowfall. This snowfall accumulates during the winter and spring, several months before the snow melts and appears as streamflow. Since the runoff from precipitation as snow is delayed, estimates of snowmelt runoff can be made well in advance of its occurrence. Streamflow forecasts published in this report are based principally on measurement of the water equivalent of the mountain snowpack.

Forecasts become more accurate as more of the data affecting runoff are measured. All forecasts assume that climatic factors during the remainder of the snow accumulation and melt season will interact with a resultant average effect on runoff. Early season forecasts are therefore subject to a greater change than those made on later dates.

The snow course measurement is obtained by sampling snow depth and water equivalent at surveyed and marked locations in mountain areas. A total of about ten samples are taken at each location. The average of these are reported as snow depth and water equivalent. These measurements are repeated in the same location near the same dates each year.

Snow surveys are made monthly or semi-monthly from January 1 through June 1 in most states. There are about 1900 snow courses in Western United States and in the Columbia Basin in British Columbia. Networks of automatic snow water equivalent and related data sensing devices, along with radio telemetry are expanding and will provide a continuous record of snow water and other parameters at key locations.

Detailed data on snow course and soil moisture measurements are presented in state and local reports. Other data on reservoir storage, summaries of precipitation, current streamflow, and soil moisture conditions at valley elevations are also included. The report for Western United States presents a broad picture of water supply outlook conditions, including selected streamflow forecasts, summary of snow accumulation to date, and storage in larger reservoirs.

Snow survey and soil moisture data for the period of record are published by the Soil Conservation Service by states about every five years. Data for the current year is summarized in a West-wide basic data summary and published about October 1 of each year.

*COVER PHOTO: VIEW OF A SNOTEL DATA SITE IN THE SNOWY RANGE IN WYOMING. TALL CYLINDRICAL DEVICE IS A PRECIPITATION GAGE. SNOW PILLOWS ON THE GROUND NOT VISIBLE DUE TO SNOW COVER. SHELTER HOUSE, ANTENNA TOWER, ANTENNA, AND TEMPERATURE UNIT ARE VISIBLE BEHIND THE PRECIPITATION GAGE.*

## PUBLISHED BY SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

The Soil Conservation Service publishes reports following the principal snow survey dates from January 1 through June 1 in cooperation with state water administrators, agricultural experiment stations and others. Copies of the reports for Western United States and all state reports may be obtained from Soil Conservation Service, West Technical Service Center, Room 510, 511 N.W. Broadway, Portland, Oregon 97209.

Copies of state and local reports may also be obtained from state offices of the Soil Conservation Service in the following states:

STATE	ADDRESS
Alaska	Room 129, 2221 East Northern Lights Blvd., Anchorage, Alaska 99504
Arizona	Room 3008, Federal Building, 230 N. First Ave., Phoenix, Arizona 85025
Colorado (N. Mex.)	P. O. Box 17107, Denver, Colorado 80217
Idaho	Room 345, 304 N. 8th. St., Boise, Idaho 83702
Montana	P. O. Box 98, Bozeman, Montana 59715
Nevada	P. O. Box 4850, Reno, Nevada 89505
Oregon	1220 S. W. Third Ave., Portland, Oregon 97204
Utah	4420 Federal Bldg., 125 South State St., Salt Lake City, Utah 84138
Washington	360 U. S. Court House, Spokane, Washington 99201
Wyoming	P. O. Box 2440, Casper, Wyoming 82602

## PUBLISHED BY OTHER AGENCIES

Water Supply Outlook reports prepared by other agencies include a report for California by the Snow Surveys Branch, California Department of Water Resources, P.O. Box 388, Sacramento, California 95802 --- for British Columbia by the Ministry of the Environment, Water Investigations Branch, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, British Columbia V8V 1X5 --- for Yukon Territory by the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, Northern Operations Branch, 200 Range Road, Whitehorse, Yukon Territory Y1A 3V1 --- and for Alberta, Saskatchewan, and N.W.T. by the Water Survey of Canada, Inland Waters Branch, 110-12 Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alberta T3C 1A6.



# ***WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR NEVADA***

and  
FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS

*Issued by*

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ALL AVERAGES ARE FOR 1963-77 PERIOD

# WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR NEVADA

STREAMFLOWS THIS SUMMER ARE FORECAST TO BE CONSIDERABLY BELOW AVERAGE FOR LAKE TAHOE RISE, TRUCKEE RIVER, SALMON FALLS CREEK AND STREAMS IN NORTHWESTERN NEVADA. OTHER RIVERS AND STREAMS IN THE STATE ARE FORECAST TO HAVE AVERAGE TO ABOVE AVERAGE STREAMFLOWS.

SNOW WATER INCREASES TO THE SNOWPACK WERE AVERAGE IN MOST AREAS BUT ABOVE AVERAGE IN THE CARSON AND WALKER BASINS.

RESERVOIR STORAGE HAS IMPROVED AND IS AVERAGE OR ABOVE IN ALL STORAGE FACILITIES EXCEPT LAKE TAHOE AND RYE PATCH. LAKE TAHOE CONTAINS 135,000 ACRE-FEET, SLIGHTLY ABOVE LAST YEAR'S 111,000, BUT FAR SHORT OF THE 496,000 ACRE-FEET AVERAGE.

WATER SUPPLIES WILL BE ADEQUATE BUT IN THE TAHOE TRUCKEE BASINS ALL AVAILABLE RESERVOIR STORAGE WILL BE NEAR DEPLETION AT THE END OF THE SEASON.

## Sierra East Slope

Snow course measurements indicated average snow water accumulation during the month for the Truckee and Tahoe Basins and above average increases in the Carson and Walker Basins. April 1 snow water is 86 percent in the Truckee Basin, 89 percent in the Tahoe Basin, 117 percent in the Carson Basin and 121 percent in the Walker Basin. This year's April 1, snow water in the Tahoe Truckee Basin is 70 percent of last year.

Reservoir storage has improved during the month. Topaz and Bridgeport Reservoirs on the Walker Basin are full. Lahontan now contains 266,000 acre-feet for 110 percent of average. However, Lake Tahoe usable storage is only 135,000 acre-feet for 27 percent of average.

Water supplies in these areas should be adequate but in the Tahoe-Truckee Basin all available storage will be needed to supplement the below average streamflows. There will be little carryover storage for next year.



### Humboldt River

Snow water in the Upper Humboldt is 123 percent of average. The low elevation snow areas melted during the month as indicated by satellite. Snow covered areas on the Humboldt Basin above Comus were reduced from 82 percent on March 2, 1979 to 23 percent on March 24, 1979.

Streamflows are near average to slightly above on all streams in the Basin except Mary's River with presents flows of 84 percent and Humboldt River at Comus with 88 percent. March streamflows at Palisade were considerably above average and is 168 percent of average.

Rye Patch Reservoir storage increased during the month from March snowmelt and now contains 84,000 acre-feet. Las year it had 57,000 acre-feet in storage.

### Owyhee and Snake Rivers

Snow water is 123 percent of average in the Owyhee but only 80 percent in the Bruneau and Salmon Falls Creek Basins. Most snow courses in the North-east part of Elko County had below average increases during the month.

Wildhorse Reservoir contains 31,000 acre-feet as compared to 35,000 acre-feet last year.

Streamflows are forecast above average on the Owyhee and below average on other streams.

### Eastern Nevada

Snow courses have above average increases during the month so the snow water is above average. Water supplies are very favorable. Streams and springs in this area should have above average flows.

### Southern Nevada

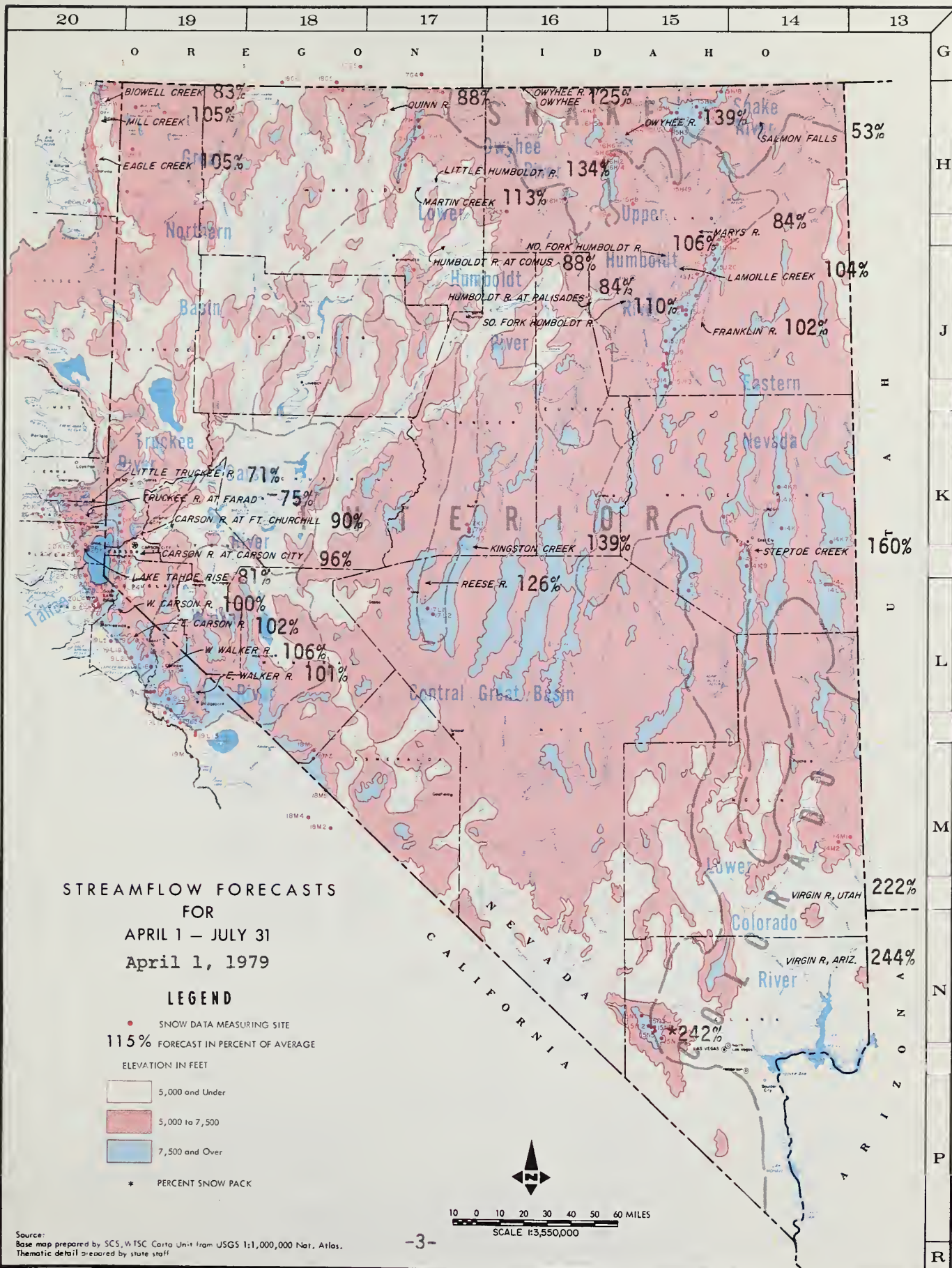
This area continued to have above average precipitation during the month. Snow water in the Mt. Charleston area is 242 percent of average. Much of the snowpack in the Caliente area melted during the month. Mathew Canyon had 7.1 inches of snow water on February 26, 1979 and only 0.6 inch on April 2, 1979. Streams had considerable flow during the month.

### Northern Great Basin

Snow water in this area is varied but average at 85 percent. The Warner mountains snow water is slightly better at 93 percent. Streamflows will be slightly below average this season.



# PROSPECTIVE WATER SUPPLY FOR NEVADA



Source:  
Base map prepared by SCS, W.TSC Carto Unit from USGS 1:1,000,000 Nat. Atlas.  
Thematic detail prepared by state staff

# INDEX TO NEVADA SNOW COURSES

(By Basins)

Refer to the map on the preceeding page for Snow Course locations.

NUMBER	NAME	SEC.	TWP.	RGE.	ELEV.
<b>SNAKE RIVER BASIN</b>					
<b>SNAKE RIVER</b>					
15H15MA	Bear Creek	31	46N	58E	7800
15H2	Fox Creek	33	46N	58E	6800
15H135A	Goat Creek	31	46N	60E	8800
15H15A	Hummingbird Springs	6	45N	60E	8945
15H20a	Merritt Mountain	10	46N	54E	7000
15H145A	Pole Creek Ranger Station	13	46N	59E	8330
15H18a	Red Point	15	47N	61E	7940
15H35A	76 Creek	6	44N	58E	7100
15H19a	5tag Mountain	32	41N	58E	7800

<b>OWYHEE RIVER</b>					
15H45M	Big Bend	30	45N	56E	6700
16H6a	Columbia Basin	31	44N	53E	6650
16H8a	Fawn Creek	2	45N	52E	7000
15H5	Gold Creek	32	45N	56E	6600
16H1M	Jack Creek, Lower	18	42N	53E	6800
16H2SAM	Jack Creek, Upper	9	42N	53E	7250
16H45	Jacks Peak	21	42N	53E	8420
16H55	Laurel Draw	20	45N	53E	6700
17G4a	Louse Canyon (OR)	27	40S	44E	6440
15H9MP	Taylor Canyon	35	39N	53E	6200

## INTERIOR

<b>UPPER HUMBOLDT RIVER</b>					
15J17a	American Beauty	32	31N	58E	7800
15J125A	Corral Canyon	27	28N	57E	8500
15J15M	Oorsey Basin	28	35N	60E	8100
15J3	Ory Creek	5	34N	60E	6500
15H7	Fry Canyon	31	43N	54E	6700
15J95M	Green Mountain	23	29N	57E	8000
15J10	Harrison Pass #1	9	28N	57E	6600
15J11	Harrison Pass #2	16	28N	57E	7400
15J4	Lamoille #1	15	32N	58E	7100
15J65	Lamoille #3	24	32N	58E	7700
15J8P	Lamoille #5	31	32N	59E	8700
15J20	Pole Canyon #2	6	34N	61E	7700
15J16a	Robinson Lake	23	33N	59E	9200
15H6MP	Rodeo Flat	36	43N	53E	6800
15J2	Ryan Ranch	1	34N	59E	5800
15J19	Smith Creek	26	30N	57E	7600
15H8	Tremewan Ranch	9	39N	55E	5700
15H10P	Trout Creek, Lower	28	37N	61E	6900
15H11A	Trout Creek, Upper	4	36N	61E	8500

<b>LOWER HUMBOLDT RIVER</b>					
17K1	Big Creek Campground	10	17N	43E	6600
17K2	Big Creek Mine	23	17N	43E	7600
17K3	Big Creek, Upper	26	17N	43E	7800
17H2	Buckskin, Lower	25	45N	39E	6700
17H1	Buckskin, Upper	11	45N	39E	8200
17L1	Corral, Lower	12	11N	40E	7500
17L2	Corral, Upper	20	11N	41E	8000
17J2	Golconda #2	22	35N	39E	6000
17H4	Granite Peak	22	44N	39E	7800
17H5	Lamance Creek	13	42N	38E	6000
17H3	Martin Creek	13	44N	39E	6700
16H3AP	Midas	18	39N	46E	7200
16H7a	Toe Jam	29	40N	50E	7700

<b>EASTERN NEVADA</b>					
14L1	Baker #1	29	13N	69E	7950
14L2	Baker #2	30	13N	69E	8950
14L3	Baker #3	25	13N	68E	9250
14K25	Berry Creek	26	17N	65E	9100
14K1	Bird Creek	34	19N	65E	7500
14K9a	Defiance Mines	9	14N	63E	9200
15J15	Hole-in-Mountain	6	35N	61E	7900
14K8	Kalamazoo Creek	34	20N	65E	7400
14K3	Murray Summit	25	16N	62E	7250
15K1	Robinson Summit	34	18N	61E	7600
14K7	Silver Creek #2	30	16N	69E	8000
14K5	Ward Mountain #2	25	15N	62E	8900

<b>CENTRAL GREAT BASIN</b>					
18M2	Campito Mountain (CA)	19	5S	35E	10200
18M5a	Chiatovich Flat (CA)	32	2S	34E	10500
15N2	Clark Canyon	8	19S	56E	9000
18M1	Montgomery Pass	4	1N	33E	7100
18M3a	Pinchot Creek (CA)	28	1N	33E	9300
18M4a	Plute Pass (CA)	33	4S	33E	11700
15N1	Trough Springs	23	18S	55E	8500

<b>NORTHERN GREAT BASIN</b>					
19H1a	Bald Mountain	17	45N	21E	6270
20H5	Barber Creek (CA)	23	39N	16E	6500
20H6	Cedar Pass (CA)	12	43N	14E	7100
18G6a	Denio Creek (OR)	14	41S	34E	6000
18H1	Disaster Peak	8	47N	34E	6500
20H3a	Dismal Swamp (CA)	31	48N	17E	7000
20H7	Eagle Peak (CA)	35	40N	15E	7200
19H3	49 Mountain	7	42N	19E	6000
19H2	Hays Canyon	1	39N	18E	6400
19H4a	Little Bally Mountain	8	45N	19E	6000
20H9	Mt. Bidwell (CA)	6	47N	16E	7200
20H10	North Star (CA)	13	47N	16E	6200
17G5a	Oregon Canyon (OR)	9	40S	40E	7240
17H6a	Quinn Ridge	9	47N	41E	6300
20H4	Reservation Creek (CA)	12	46N	15E	5900
18G5a	Trout Creek (OR)	10	41S	38E	7800

<b>LAKE TAHOE</b>					
20L65	Echo Peak (CA)	35	12N	17E	7800
20L5	Echo Summit (CA)	6	11N	18E	7450
20L105	Fallen Leaf (CA)	36	13N	17E	6300
19L2	Freel Bench (CA)	36	12N	18E	7300
19K6	Glenbrook #2	13	14N	18E	6900
19L3M5	Hagans Meadow (CA)	36	12N	18E	8000
19L245	Heavenly Valley (CA)	1	12N	18E	8850
20L4	Lake Lucille (CA)	28	12N	17E	8200
19K4M5	Marlette Lake	18	15N	19E	8000
20L3	Richardsons #2 (CA)	6	12N	18E	6500
20L1	Rubicon #1 (CA)	6	13N	17E	8100
20L2	Rubicon #2 (CA)	6	13N	17E	7500
20K16	Tahoe City (CA)	6	15N	17E	6250
20K26	Tahoe City Alt. (CA)	7	15N	17E	6300
20K275	Tahoe City Cross (CA)	1	15N	16E	6750
19L1	Upper Truckee (CA)	21	12N	18E	6400
20K25	Ward Creek (CA) #3	21	15N	16E	6750
20K17	Ward Creek #2 (CA)	21	15N	16E	7000

## TRUCKEE RIVER

20K14	Boca #2 (CA)	28	18N	17E	5900
20K22	Brockway Summit (CA)	3	17N	16E	7100
20K21	Oonner Park #2 (CA)	18	17N	16E	6000
20K10	Oonner Summit (CA)	25	17N	14E	6900
20K7*	Fordyce Lake (CA)	34	18N	13E	6500
20K8*	Furnace Flat (CA)	10	17N	13E	6700
20K4M5	Independence Camp (CA)	34	19N	15E	7000
20K35	Independence Creek (CA)	14	19N	15E	6500
20K55	Independence Lake (CA)	9	18N	15E	8450
19K3	Little Valley	17	16N	19E	6300
19K25	Mt. Rose	7	17N	19E	9000
19K7	Mt. Rose Ski Area	30	17N	19E	9000
20K6	Sage Hen Creek (CA)	7	18N	16E	6500
20K19	Squaw Valley #2 (CA)	6	15N	16E	7500
20K135	Truckee #2 (CA)	22	17N	16E	6400
20K2*	Webber Lake (CA)	29	19N	14E	7000
20K1*	Webber Peak (CA)	30	19N	14E	8000

## CARSON RIVER

19L5	Blue Lakes (CA)	30	9N	19E	8000
19L4	Carson Pass, Upper (CA)	22	10N	18E	8600
19K5	Clear Creek	6	14N	19E	7300
19L19A	Ebbetts Pass (CA)	17	8N	20E	8700
19L16a	Fish Valley, Upper (CA)	1	7N	22E	8050
19L065	Poison Flat (CA)	25	8N	21E	7900
19L315	Wet Meadows #2 (CA)	26	9N	19E	8050
19L18A	Wet Meadows Lake (Cal.)	26	9N	19E	8100
19L20a	Wolf Creek (Cal.)	35	8N	20E	8000

## WALKER RIVER

19L11	Buckeye Forks (CA)	20	4N	23E	8500
19L10	Buckeye Roughs (CA)	15	4N	23E	7900
19L12	Center Mountain (CA)	4	3N	23E	9400
19L8	Leavitt Meadows (CA)	4	5N	22E	7200
19L175A	Lobdell Lake (CA)	20	7N	24E	9200
19L34	Sawmill Ridge (CA)	17	3N	24E	8750
19L7	Sonora Pass (CA)	1	5N	21E	8800
19L235	Sonora Pass Bridge (CA)	6	5N	22E	8800
19M1*	Tioga Pass (CA)	30	1N	25E	9900
19L13	Virginia Lakes (CA)	5	2N	25E	9500
19L22M5	Virginia Lakes Ridge (CA)	32	2N	25E	9200
19L9	Willow Flat (CA)	21	5N	23E	8250

## COLORADO

### LOWER COLORADO RIVER

15N5	Kyle Canyon	27	19S	56E	8200
15N3	Lee Canyon #2	9	19S	56E	9200
15N8	Lee Canyon #3	10	19S	56E	8500
14M1	Mathew Canyon	10	6S	70E	6000
14M2	Pine Canyon	23	6S	69E	6200
15N7	Rainbow Canyon #2	6	20S	57E	8100
15L1	White River #1	31	13N	59E	7400

## LEGEND

### NUMBERING SYSTEM (EXAMPLE)

19K4	Snow Course Only
19K45	Snow Course with SNOTEL
19K4M	Snow Course and Soil Moisture
19K4A	Snow Course and Aerial Marker
19K4P	Snow Course and Storage Precipitation Gage
19K4MA	Snow Course, Soil Moisture and Aerial Marker
19K4MP	Snow Course, Soil Moisture, and Precipitation Gage

Lower case letter "a" indicates no snow course, only an Aerial Marker.  
SNOTEL has telemetered data for snow pillow, precipitation gage and temperature.



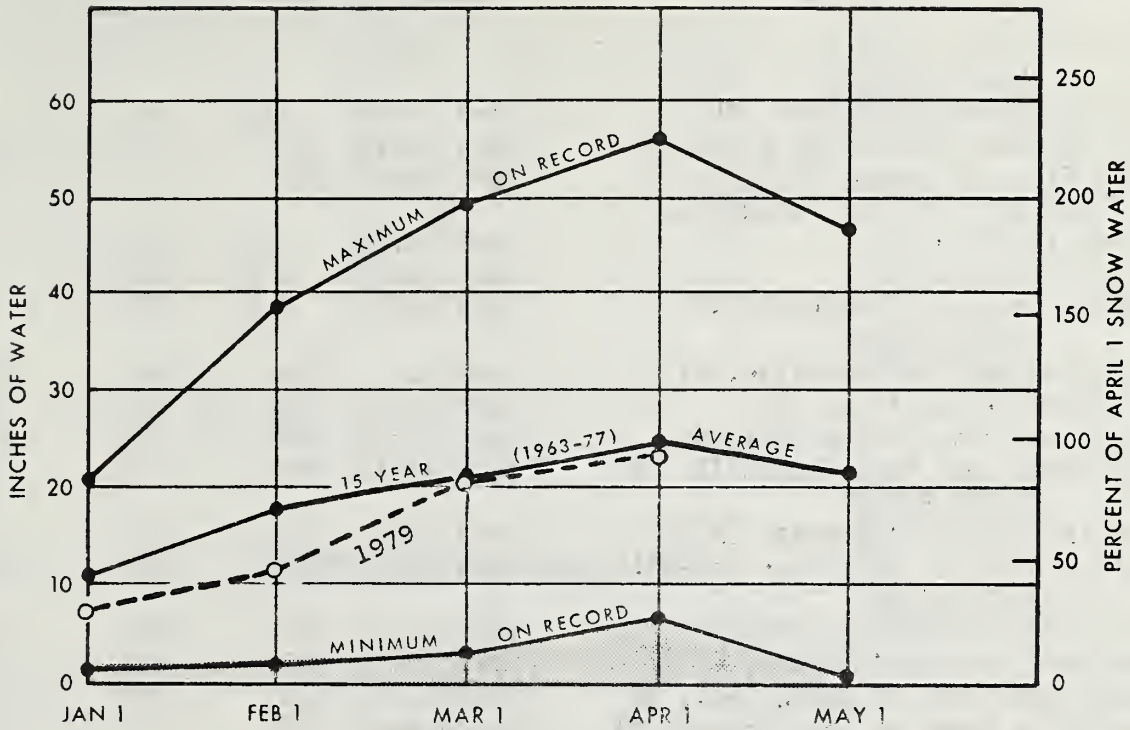
# WINTER SNOWPACK

## TAHOE, TRUCKEE, CARSON & WALKER BASINS

### CALIFORNIA - NEVADA

#### 1979

Data based on 9 long term Snow Courses



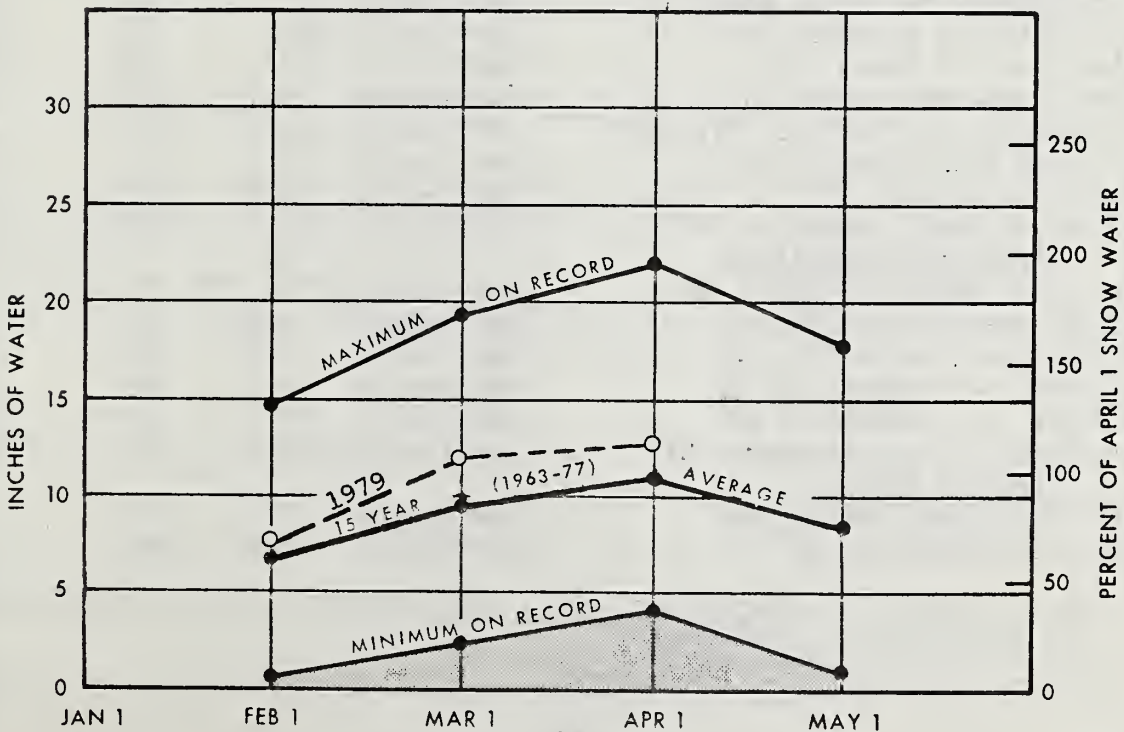
# WINTER SNOWPACK

## UPPER HUMBOLDT & SNAKE BASINS

### NEVADA

#### 1979

Data based on 13 selected Snow Courses



# STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (Thousand Acre Feet) as of: April 1, 1979

Forecasts are based on snow-water presently stored in the mountain watersheds and the assumption that precipitation will be near average throughout the forecast period. Peak flow forecasts indicate the most probable range for the maximum average 24-hour flow. All overages are for 1963-77 period.

FORECAST POINT	Forecast Period	Forecast This Year	This Year as Percent of Average	Average +
<b>TRUCKEE RIVER</b>				
Galena Creek near Steamboat, NV	April-July	4.0	91	4.4
Little Truckee River above Boca, CA	April-July	62	71	87
Truckee River at Farad, CA 1/ 2/	April-July	205	75	273
Lake Tahoe Rise in Feet (assuming gates closed) ) 1/	April-High	1.15	81	1.42
Sage Hen Creek, CA	April-July	4.5	69	6.5
Steamboat Creek at Steamboat, NV	April-July	4.2	81	5.2
<b>CARSON RIVER</b>				
East Carson near Gardnerville, NV	April-July	190	102	187
West Carson at Woodfords, CA	April-July	53	100	53
Carson River near Carson City, NV	April-July	175	96	183
Carson River near Fort Churchill, NV	April-July	160	90	167
<b>WALKER RIVER</b>				
East Walker near Bridgeport, CA 3/	April-Aug.	70	101	69
W. Walker below L. Walker nr Coleville, CA	April-July	155	106	146
<b>SNAKE RIVER</b>				
Owyhee River near Owyhee, NV 4/	April-July	95	125	80
Owyhee River near Gold Creek, NV 4/	April-July	32	139	22
S. Fork Owyhee Rv. nr White Rock, NV	April-July	130	159	83
Salmon Falls Creek nr San Jacinto, NV	March-Sept.	50	53	95
<b>COLORADO RIVER</b>				
Virgin River at Littlefield, AZ	April-June	117	244	48
Virgin River at Hurricane, UT	April-June	109	222	49
<b>HUMBOLDT RIVER</b>				
Lamoille Creek near Lamoille, NV	April-July	29	104	28
S. Fork Humboldt above Dixie Creek	April-July	80	110	73
Marys River above Hot Springs, NV	April-July	31	84	37
N. Fork Humboldt at Devils Gate, NV	April-July	37	106	35
Humboldt River at Palisade, NV	April-July	208	94	221
Humboldt River at Comus, NV	April-July	157	88	175
Kingston Creek near Austin, NV	April-July	4.6	139	3.3
L. Humboldt Rv. nr Paradise, Va., NV	April-July	13	134	9.7
Martin Creek near Paradise, NV	April-July	17	113	15
Reese River near Ione, NV	April-July	8.3	176	6.6
Rock Creek nr Battle Mountain, NV	April-July	18	113	16
<b>GREAT NORTHERN BASIN</b>				
Bidwell Creek nr Fort Bidwell, CA	April-July	10	83	12
Mill Creek near Cedarville, CA	April-July	4.3	105	4.1
Deep Creek near Cedarville, CA	April-July	3	83	3.6
Eagle Creek near Eagleville, CA	April-July	4.5	105	4.3
Quinn River near McDermitt, NV	April-July	14	88	16
E. Fork Quinn Rv. nr McDermitt, NV	April-July	12	92	13
<b>EASTERN NEVADA</b>				
Franklin River near Arthur, NV	April-July	6	102	5.9
Steptoe Creek near Ely, NV	April-July	3.2	160	2

1. Forecast issued by Truckee Basin Water Committee

2. Observed flow plus change in storage in Boca, Stampede, Prosser Reservoir, Donner, Independence and Martis Creek Lakes and minus the flow at Truckee River at Tahoe City, CA.

3. Observed flow plus change in storage in Bridgeport Reservoir

4. Observed flow plus change in storage in Wildhorse Reservoir

+ 1963-1977 period



## RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet) AS OF April 1, 1979

Basin or Stream	RESERVOIR	Usable Capacity	Usable Storage		
			This Year	Last Year	Average†
Owyhee	Wild Horse	72	31	30	35
Lower Humboldt	Rye Patch	172	84	57	132
Colorado	Mohave	1,810	1,659	1,617	1,700
Colorado	Mead	26,159	23,080	21,281	17,200
Tahoe	Tahoe	732	135	111	496
Truckee	Boca	41	29	31	22
Truckee	Stampede**	220	64	41	126*
Truckee	Prosser***	30	9	5	9*
Carson	Lahontan	291	266	175	242
West Walker	Topaz	59	58	19	47
East Walker	Bridgeport	42	43	25	36

\* Less than 15 years.

\* \* Storage began August 1, 1969.

\*\*\* Flood Control use allocation of 20,000 acre-feet between November 1 and April 10.

**TOTAL RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet)**

MONTH	This Year	Last Year	Average <sup>†</sup>
October 1	472	97	786
January 1	422	124	844
February 1	495	221	920
March 1	541	302	968
April 1	646	448	1,010
May 1		533	1,032

The above data developed from Wild Horse, Rye Patch, Tahoe, Boca, Lahontan, Topaz, and Bridgeport Reservoirs in 1,000 Acre-feet.

TOTAL USABLE CAPACITY 1,409

**PEAK FLOWS** (MAXIMUM MEAN DAILY) (Av. flow for 24 hrs. on day of greatest flow)

FORECAST POINT	PEAK FLOW (SECOND FEET)	
	Forecast Range	Average †
East Fork Carson River near Gardnerville, NV	1725 - 1925	1865
Carson River near Carson City, NV	1850 - 2050	2098
Carson River near Fort Churchill, NV	1600 - 1800	1914
W. Walker R. below L. Walker nr Coleville, CA	1525 - 1725	1589

## FORECAST DATE of LOW FLOW VALUES

FORECAST POINT	Low Flow Value Second/Ft.	Forecast Date Stream Will Recede to Low Flow Value	Average Date of Low Flow Value
East Carson River near Gardnerville, NV	200	7/22	7/24

# SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
		Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches)	
					Last Year	Average †
NAME	Elevation					
<u>LAKE TAHOE</u>						
Echo Peak (CA)	7800	3/23/79	72	30.6	49.6	-
Echo Summit (CA)	7450	3/29/79	79	29.7	37.0	32.5
Fallen Leaf (CA)	6300	3/23/79	14	2.5	4.0	-
Freel Bench (CA)	7300	3/26/79	29	11.7	11.7	10.2
Glenbrook #2	6900	3/29/79	39	11.6	12.3	11.2
Hagans Meadow (CA)	8000	3/26/79	39	14.2	24.7	16.5
Heavenly Valley (CA)	8800	3/26/79	61	24.6	36.0	28.1*
Lake Lucille (CA)	8200	3/23/79	122	46.0	72.1	55.9
Marlette Lake	8000	3/26/79	55	22.6	31.0	21.1
Richardsons #2 (CA)	6500	3/28/79	50	16.2	18.8	15.2
Rubicon #1 (CA)	8100	3/23/79	121	40.0	55.5	48.6
Rubicon #2 (CA)	7500	3/23/79	68	21.8	35.8	29.1
Tahoe City Cross (CA)	6750	3/28/79	47	16.0	21.8	-
Upper Truckee (CA)	6400	3/26/79	32	11.8	8.7	7.9
Ward Creek #2 (CA)	7000	3/26/79	76	32.8	49.7	40.6
Ward Creek #3 (CA)	6750	4/1/79	83	33.6	46.4	39.4*
<u>TRUCKEE RIVER</u>						
Boca #2 (CA)	5900	4/1/79	6	2.4	0	3.9
Brockway Summit (CA)	7100	3/27/79	39	13.8	21.6	16.9*
Castle Creek (CA)	7400	3/28/79	113	41.5	67.9	50.5
Donner Park #2 (CA)	6000	4/1/79	34	13.2	16.8	16.7
Donner Summit (CA)	6900	3/30/79	89	33.3	57.2	35.9
Fordyce Lake (CA)	6500	3/30/79	103	41.8	59.2	38.6
Furnace Flat (CA)	6700	3/30/79	112	44.2	64.4	45.7
Independence Camp (CA)	7000	4/1/79	48	18.5	30.8	21.8
Independence Creek (CA)	6500	4/1/79	26	9.4	16.7	12.7
Independence Lake (CA)	8450	4/1/79	102	34.8	58.3	41.4
Little Valley	6300	3/28/79	28	8.2	5.9	6.9
Mount Rose	9000	3/26/79	70	26.2	46.3	35.9
Mount Rose Ski Area	8850	3/30/79	109	38.3	56.7	38.5
Sage Hen Creek (CA)	6500	4/1/79	36	13.7	22.9	17.3
Squaw Valley #2 (CA)	7500	4/1/79	113	44.6	64.1	46.5*
Truckee #2 (CA)	6400	3/27/79	31	11.8	16.1	14.3
Webber Lake (CA)	7000	3/30/79	73	25.8	42.6	28.9
Webber Peak (CA)	8000	3/30/79	94	32.5	38.2	42.7*
<u>CARSON RIVER</u>						
Blue Lakes (CA)	8000	3/29/79	104	36.6	45.9	34.6
Carson Pass, Upper (CA)	8600	3/30/79	88	32.8	45.6	33.1
Clear Creek	7300	3/28/79	36	9.8	13.8	11.6
Ebbetts Pass AM (CA)	8700	3/29/79	110	40.7	51.3	33.8*
Ebbetts Pass #2 (CA)	8700	3/29/79	107	39.8	50.6	-
Fish Valley, Upper (CA)	8050	3/29/79	44	14.5	18.5	13.3a
Poison Flat AM (CA)	7900	3/29/79	57	16.8	-	12.3
Poison Flat (CA)	7900	3/29/79	60	19.5	23.2	-
Wet Meadows Lake AM (CA)	8050	3/29/79	84	31.9	40.5	25.7a*
Wet Meadows #2 (CA)	8050	3/29/79	113	43.3	52.5	-
Wolf Creek AM (CA)	8000	3/29/79	85	29.8	36.0	27.8a*

† 1963-1977 period

# SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS

SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS		THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches)	
NAME	Elevation				Last Year	Average †
<u>WALKER RIVER</u>						
Buckeye Roughs (CA)	7900	3/29/79	57	18.8	29.5	18.0
Center Mountain (CA)	9400	3/29/79	115	40.5	54.2	34.3*
Leavitt Lake (CA)	9400	3/29/79	122	45.7	-	-
Leavitt Meadow (CA)	7200	3/29/79	44	13.8	18.0	6.7
Lobdell Lake (CA)	9200	3/29/79	58	19.0	24.5	16.3
Sawmill Ridge (CA)	8750	3/29/79	69	19.3	34.2	-
Sonora Pass (CA)	8800	3/29/79	75	27.2	36.2	23.1
Tioga Pass (CA)	9900	4/3/79	89	34.0	45.8	24.1
Virginia Lakes (CA)	9500	3/29/79	52	19.1	28.5	16.0*
Virginia Lakes Ridge (CA)	9200	3/29/79	68	19.8	31.2	16.9
Willow Flat (CA)	8250	3/29/79	42	12.1	18.2	9.5
<u>NORTHERN GREAT BASIN</u>						
Bald Mountain AM	6720	3/28/79	3	1.1a	0.0a	2.3
Barber Creek (CA)	6500	3/27/79	19	7.8	10.1	11.4
Cedar Pass (CA)	7100	3/26/79	43	16.7	13.2	16.3
Denio Creek AM (OR)	6000	4/4/79	0	0.0a	0.0a	0.3a*
Disaster Peak	6500	3/26/79	28	11.1	12.6	10.9
Dismal Swamp AM (CA)	7000	3/28/79	56	21.8a	22.4a	17.8a*
Eagle Peak (CA)	7200	3/30/79	40	14.8	10.2	14.5
49 Mountain	6000	3/28/79	2	0.9	0.6	2.8
Hays Canyon	6400	3/27/79	1	0.1	3.3	2.6
Little Bally Mountain AM	6000	3/28/79	7	2.6a	1.2a	2.0a
Mount Bidwell (CA)	7240	3/28/79	58	21.7	25.8	26.0*
North Star (CA)	6200	3/28/79	39	15.4	14.7	19.1*
Oregon Canyon AM (OR)	7240	4/4/79	23	8.7a	4.7a	3.6a*
Quinn Ridge AM	6300	4/4/79	0	0.0a	0.0	0.9a
Reservation Creek (CA)	5900	3/28/79	25	10.1	8.0	10.5
Trout Creek AM (OR)	7800	4/4/79	31	11.8a	16.5a	7.3a
<u>SNAKE RIVER</u>						
Bear Creek	7800	3/30/79	64	19.2	23.4	21.3
Fox Creek	6800	3/30/79	37	9.2	8.7	9.9*
Goat Creek	8800	3/30/79	52	13.6	19.5	18.6
Hummingbird Springs	8945	3/30/79	65	17.5	25.9	23.7
Merritt Mountain AM	7000	4/4/79	20	6.4a	0.0	5.4a*
Pole Creek Ranger Station	8330	3/30/79	51	14.3	19.6	22.5
75 Creek	7100	3/30/79	40	12.3	11.2	11.4
Stag Mountain AM	7700	4/4/79	35	10.9a	4.4a	4.8a*
<u>OWYHEE RIVER</u>						
Big Bend	6700	3/26/79	31	9.5	8.7	8.2
Columbia Basin AM	6650	4/4/79	33	11.2a	3.7a	9a*
Fawn Creek AM	7000	3/26/79	26	8.5a	10.2a	4.2a*
Gold Creek	6600	3/26/79	19	6.3	4.4	4.8
Jack Creek, Lower	6800	3/26/79	15	5.1	0.0.	2.3
Jack Creek, Upper	7250	3/26/79	29	10.7	7.6	9.4
Jacks Peak	8420	3/26/79	73	24.1	25.0	24.4*
Laurel Draw	6700	3/26/79	28	9.2	7.2	6.8*
Louse Canyon AM (OR)	6440	4/4/79	29	11.0a	6.0a	2.6a*
Taylor Canyon	6200	3/26/79	21	7.3	0.0	2.7



# SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS

SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS		THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches)	
NAME	Elevation				Last Year	Average †
<u>UPPER HUMBOLDT RIVER</u>						
American Beauty AM	7800	4/4/79	44	15.4a	9.8a	8.4a*
Corral Canyon	8500	3/28/79	55	17.1	21.0	17.5
Dorsey Basin	8100	3/28/79	54	17.8	16.7	12.3
Dry Creek	6500	3/28/79	17	6.8	0.0	1.3*
Fry Canyon	6700	3/26/79	21	8.1	5.8	6.1
Green Mountain	8000	3/28/79	42	15.9	21.8	11.6*
Harrison Pass #1	6600	3/28/79	1	0.1	0.0	2.0*
Harrison Pass #2	7400	3/28/79	20	6.5	8.3	4.0*
Lamoille #1	7100	3/28/79	22	7.7	8.2	7.8
Lamoille #3	7700	3/28/79	36	11.0	13.4	12.2
Lamoille #5	8700	3/28/79	82	29.8	32.0	26.9
Pole Canyon #2	7700	3/28/79	51	19.6	14.0	-
Robinson Lake AM	9200	NS	-	-	38.0a	27.5a*
Rodeo Flat	6800	3/26/79	24	7.9	5.7	4.9
Ryan Ranch	5800	3/28/79	0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Smith Creek	7700	3/28/79	48	16.4	17.1	-
Tent Mountain, Lower AM	7000	4/4/79	37	11.5a	5.3a	15.5a*
Tent Mountain, Upper AM	8350	4/4/79	61	22.0a	23.9a	18.2a*
Tremewan Ranch	5700	3/26/79	0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Trout Creek, Lower	6900	3/28/79	21	5.8	3.9	2.5
Trout Creek, Upper	8500	3/28/79	69	23.1	21.6	18.2*
<u>LOWER HUMBOLDT RIVER</u>						
Big Creek Campground	6600	3/27/79	9	2.5	0.0	1.1
Big Creek Mine	7600	3/27/79	17	4.9	3.8	4.1
Big Creek Summit	8700	3/27/79	54	16.3	-	-
Big Creek, Upper	7800	3/27/79	29	8.0	7.4	6.3
Buckskin, Lower	6700	3/26/79	25	7.7	8.4	7.0
Buckskin, Upper	8200	3/26/79	39	15.3	12.2	9.9
Golconda #2	6000	3/30/79	11	3.3	0.0	2.3*
Granite Peak	7800	3/26/79	43	14.5	23.6	15.1*
Lamance Creek	6000	3/26/79	25	8.9	7.7	6.4
Martin Creek	6700	3/26/79	23	6.9	11.9	8.1
Midas	7200	3/26/79	1	0.1	4.3	1.8
Toe Jam AM	7700	4/4/79	40	14.4a	8.4a	8.3a*
<u>EASTERN NEVADA</u>						
Baker #1	7950	3/31/79	38	9.7	5.0	5.8
Baker #2	8950	3/31/79	68	20.0	16.0	12.8*
Baker #3 AM	9250	3/31/79	56	17.0a	15.8a	15.5a
Berry Creek	9100				17.0	14.2*
Bird Creek	7500				0.0	2.1
Hole-in-Mountain	7900	3/28/79	60	24.5	21.0	21.1*
Kalamazoo Creek	7400	3/30/79	39	11.1	11.1	6.1*
Defiance Mines AM	9400	NS			21.2a	16.6a*
Murray Summit	7250	3/28/79	25	8.1	3.0	1.6
Robinson Summit	7600	3/28/79	1	0.1	0.1	1.0
Silver Creek #2 AM	8000	3/31/79	22	7.0a	5.7a	5.1a
Ward Mountain #1	7400	3/31/79	45	12.5a		
White Mountain #1	7400	NS	-	-	-	1.8

+ 1963-1977 period.



# SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
		Date of Survey	Snow Depth (inches)	Water Content (inches)	Water Content	
NAME	Elevation				Last Year	Average †

## CENTRAL GREAT BASIN

Clark Canyon	9000	3/28/79	60	16.6	20.4	6.9*
Montgomery Pass	7100	NS	-	-	0.0	0.8
Trough Springs	8500	NS	-	-	19.4	3.5*

## LOWER COLORADO RIVER

Kyle Canyon	8200	3/27/79	56	19.2	24.8	7.6*
Lee Canyon #2	9000	3/39/79	63	18.0	24.0	7.7
Lee Canyon #3	8500	3/29/79	60	17.8	19.6	6.3
Mathew Canyon	6000	4/2/79	2	0.6	0.0	0.9
Pine Canyon	6200	NS	-	-	0.0	0.5
Rainbow Canyon #2	8100	3/27/79	81	26.6	32.4	13.4

## DRI MEASUREMENTS IN TAHOE-TRUCKEE BASIN

Alder Creek	6960	3/29/79	82	31.2	38.0	-
Apollo Way	7300	3/29/79	26	6.7	8.5	-
Bennett Flat	6200	3/29/79	31	9.4	13.7	-
Davis Creek	5.60	3/3/79	0	0.0	0.0	-
Evergreen Hills	5700	3/29/79	4	0.8	0.0	-
Galena Creek	7440	3/29/79	63	19.4	31.2	-
Henness Pass Junction	6410	NS	-	-	19.4	-
Hobart Mills	5850	3/29/79	14	4.9	2.2	-
Incline Lake	8000	3/29/79	71	25.4	33.6	-
Jones Creek	6000	3/29/79	6	1.2	0.0	-
Mt. Rose Resort	8280	3/29/79	83	29.2	41.3	-
North Star Fire Department	6320	3/29/79	19	4.8	0.0	-
RNR Test Site	6400	3/29/79	21	6.0	5.4	-
Sky Tavern	7620	3/29/79	46	13.1	24.3	-
Spooner Summit	7620	3/3/79	31	12.7	15.0	-
Squaw Valley Fire Department	6240	3/29/79	28	8.2	-	-
Sundance Lodge	7060	3/29/79	34	10.5	15.3	-
Tahoe Meadows	8540	3/29/79	108	42.7	54.0	-
Tamarack Lake	8820	3/29/79	86	31.0	40.0	-
Third and Incline Creeks	6235	3/29/79	9	1.2	0.0	-
Thunder Cliff	6200	3/29/79	27	8.8	6.5	-
Truckee Airport	5900	3/29/79	3	0.6	0.0	-
Whites Creek	5670	3/29/79	3	0.5	-	-

## ADDITIONAL MEASUREMENTS

Mount Rose Ski Area	8850	3/19/79	100	35.4	-	-
Independence Camp	7000	3/20/79	44	17.1	-	-
Independence Creek	6500	3/20/79	24	8.4	-	-
Ward Creek #3	6750	3/26/79	74	31.9	-	-

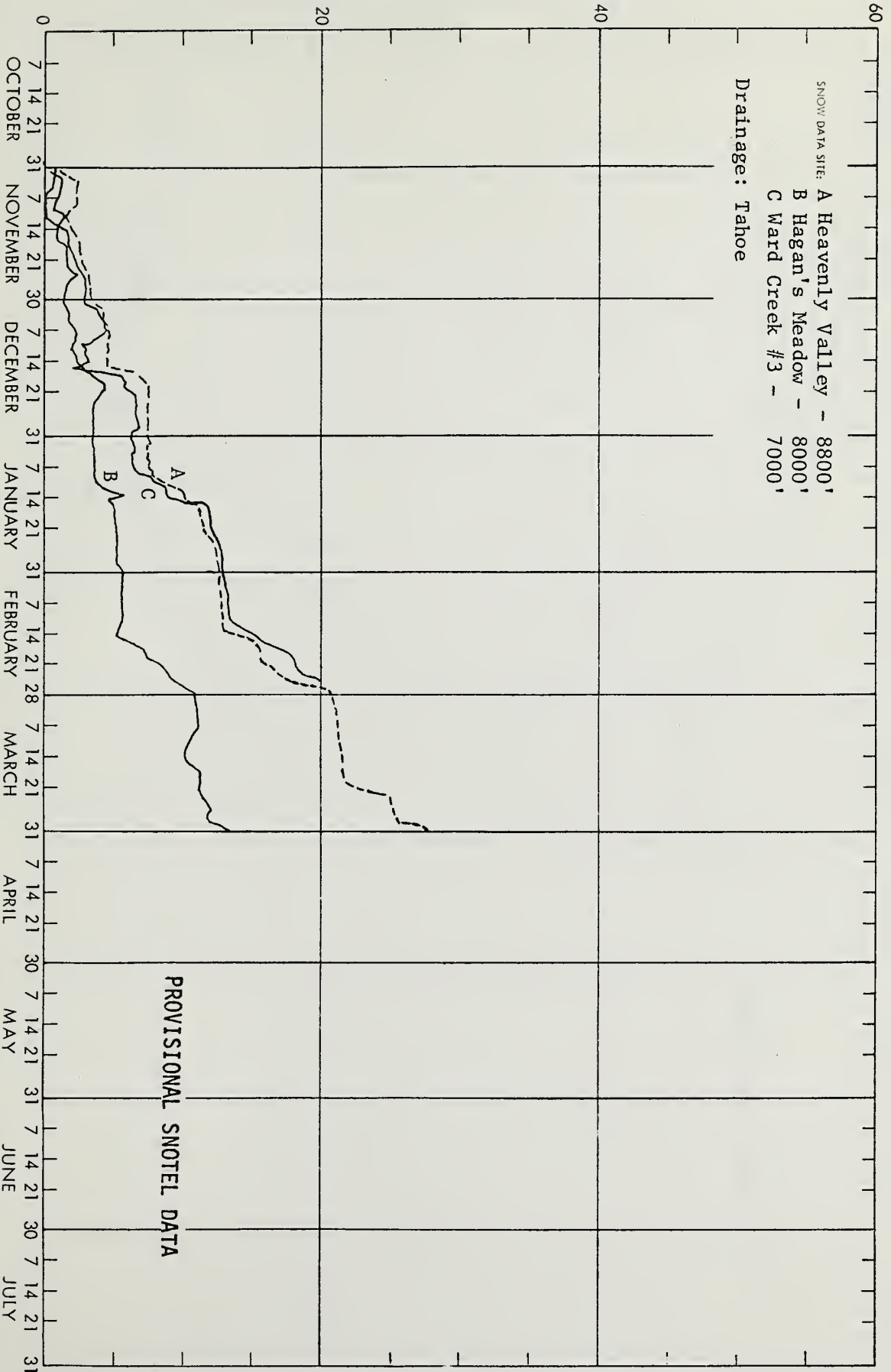
NOTE:  
All averages based on 1963-77, 15 year period. Forecast period is April 1 through July 31 unless otherwise noted.  
-Aerial marker; water content estimated. \* 1963-77 adjusted average.

+ 1963-1977 period.

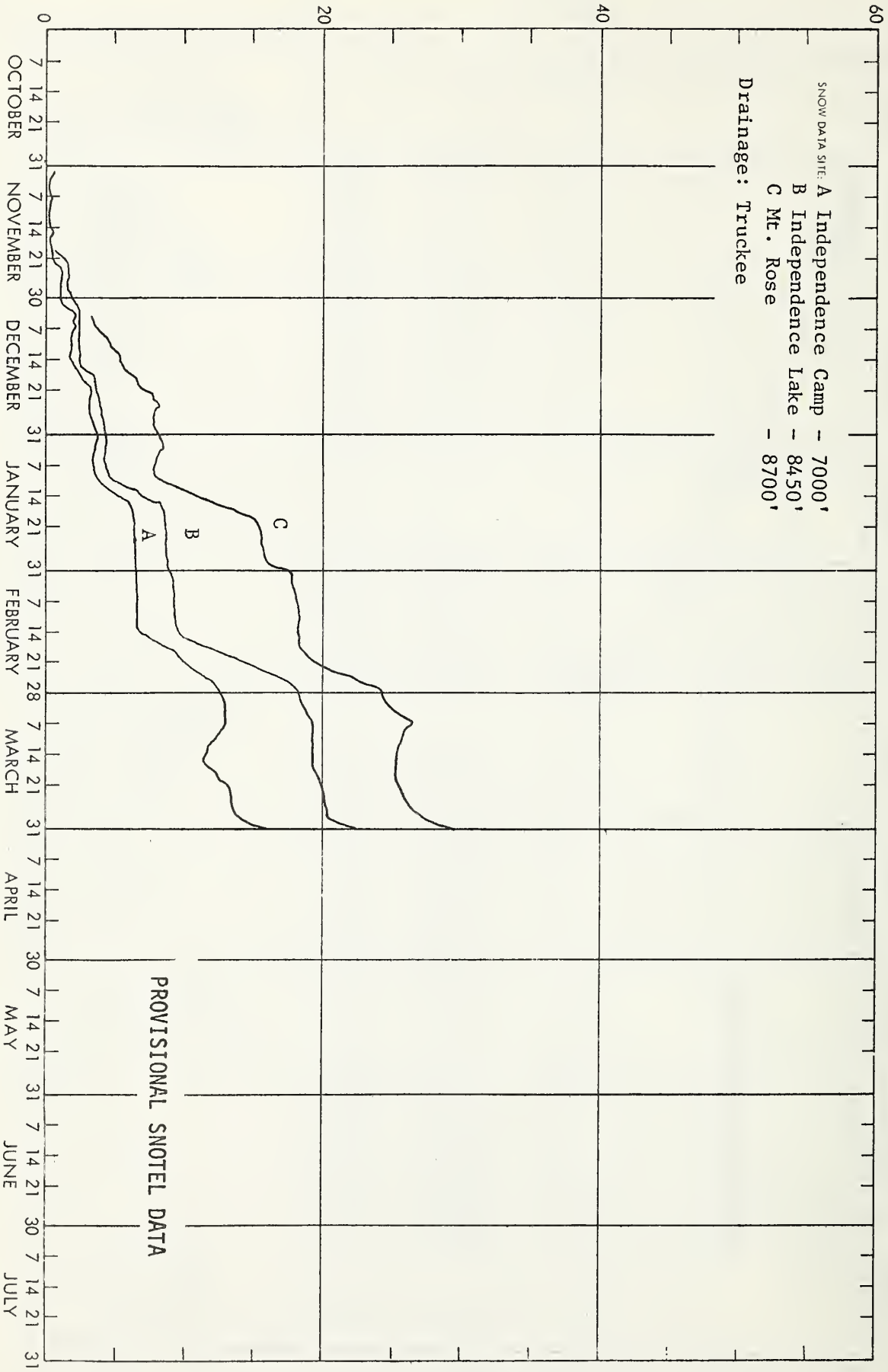
## PRECIPITATION (Inches) April 1, 1979

DRAINAGE BASIN and PRECIPITATION GAGE LOCATION	ELEVATION	CURRENT INFORMATION			FROM APPROX. OCT 1 TO DATE		
		Date of Reading	Month's Precipitation	Last Year	This Year	Last Year	
<u>LAKE TAHOE-TRUCKEE</u>							
Echo Peak	7800	3/23/79	7.5	6.1	29.5	41.8	15.5
Fallen Leaf	6300	4/1/79	2.9*	3.5	17.8*	28.5	11.4
Hagans Meadow	8000	4/1/79	4.0*	5.3	23.8	31.9	12.7
Heavenly Valley	8800	4/1/79	6.0*	5.5	-	31.7	-
Independence Camp	7000	4/1/79	2.6*	4.5	21.3*	33.9	10.6
Independence Creek	6500	4/1/79	3.2	1.7	19.1	31.2	11.0
Independence Lake	8450	4/1/79	5.2*	-	22.5*	-	-
Marlette Lake	8000	4/1/79	4.3*	4.1	24.2*	32.6	10.2
Mount Rose	9000	4/1/79	3.8*	2.4	22.9*	24.3	8.6
Mount Rose Ski Area	8850	3/30/79	8.0	-	40.3	-	-
Rubicon #2	7500	3/23/79	3.6	-	27.8	-	-
Tahoe City Cross	6750	3/28/79	4.2	4.0	26.3	27.7	10.6
Truckee #2	6400	3/27/79	2.7	4.3	20.3	8.8	8.0
Ward Creek #3	6750	4/1/79	7.5	7.8	45.1	54.8	20.9
<u>CARSON-WALKER RIVER</u>							
Blue Lakes	8000	NR					
Ebbetts Pass	8750	4/1/79	6.7*	6.0	39.3*	-	-
Poison Flat	7900	3/29/79	4.3	4.0	28.1	40.2	14.4
Wet Meadows	8050	3/29/79	7.5	5.3	32.6	27.4	6.6
Leavitt Meadows	7200	3/29/79	4.0	-	26.8	30.1	11.1
Lobdell Lake	9200	4/1/79	4.2*	2.8	18.8*	26.5	4.9
Sonora Pass	8800	4/1/79	4.5*	4.0	25.7*	32.9	13.3
Virginia Lakes Ridge	9200	4/1/79	4.3*	3.9	22.4*	31.3	17.0
<u>HUMBOLDT RIVER</u>							
Big Creek Summit	8700	3/27/79	-	-	18.9	-	-
Buckskin, Lower	6700	3/26/79	2.8	-	13.6	-	-
Corral Canyon	8500	4/1/79	3.5*	6.3	18.0	19.4	13.3
Dorsey Basin	8100	4/1/79	4.4*	5.1	20.4*	21.8	11.1
Granite Peak	7800	3/26/79	7.8	3.6	18.2	27.3	-
Green Mountain	8000	3/25/79	2.7	6.4	19.4	20.7	13.2
Lamance Creek	6000	3/26/79	3.0	3.4	15.7	22.4	-
Lamoille #3	7700	3/28/79	2.7	5.9	17.1	21.1	13.8
Midas	7200	NR	-	3.1	-	24.2	15.1
Rodeo Flat	6800	3/26/79	1.7	1.8	10.2	9.9	10.0
Trout Creek, Lower	6900	3/28/79	2.0	-	10.5	-	-
<u>SNAKE-OWYHEE RIVER</u>							
Bear Creek	7800	4/1/79	2.9*	2.8	19.0*	16.8	-
Big Bend	6700	4/1/79	1.5*	1.8	10.3*	11.4	10.4
Goat Creek	8800	3/30/79	3.3	3.5	20.6	22.5	-
Jacks Peak	8420	3/26/79	4.9	5.0	22.2	23.0	21.8
Laurel Draw	6700	3/26/79	2.6	2.6	15.8	-	-
Pole Creek RS	8330	3/30/79	2.2	2.3	14.5	15.3	-
76 Creek	7100	4/1/79	1.2*	-	12.6*	-	-
Taylor Canyon	6200	3/26/79	1.0	1.3	7.7	8.0	-
Upper Jack Creek	7250	3/26/79	3.2	3.5	16.9	17.0	17.5
<u>EASTERN NEVADA</u>							
Berry Creek	9100			5.5		16.7	13.5
Hole-in-Mountain	7900	3/28/79	1.6	-	-	-	-
<u>NORTHERN GREAT BASIN</u>							
Cedar Pass	7100	4/1/79	3.4*	3.2	18.2*	19.6	-
Disaster Peak	6500	3/26/79	2.3	2.1	14.9	15.5	-

INCHES OF WATER IN SNOWPACK

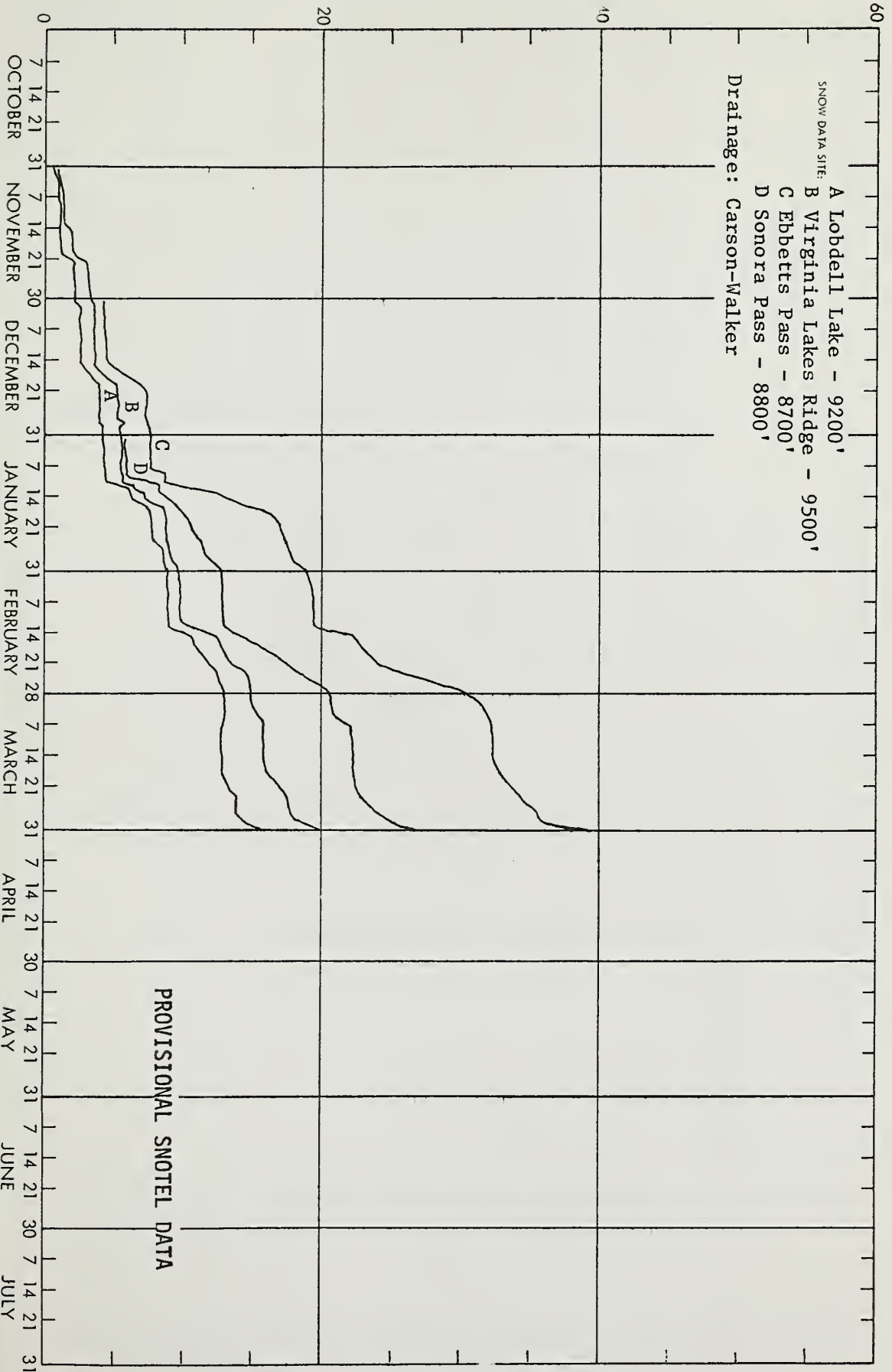


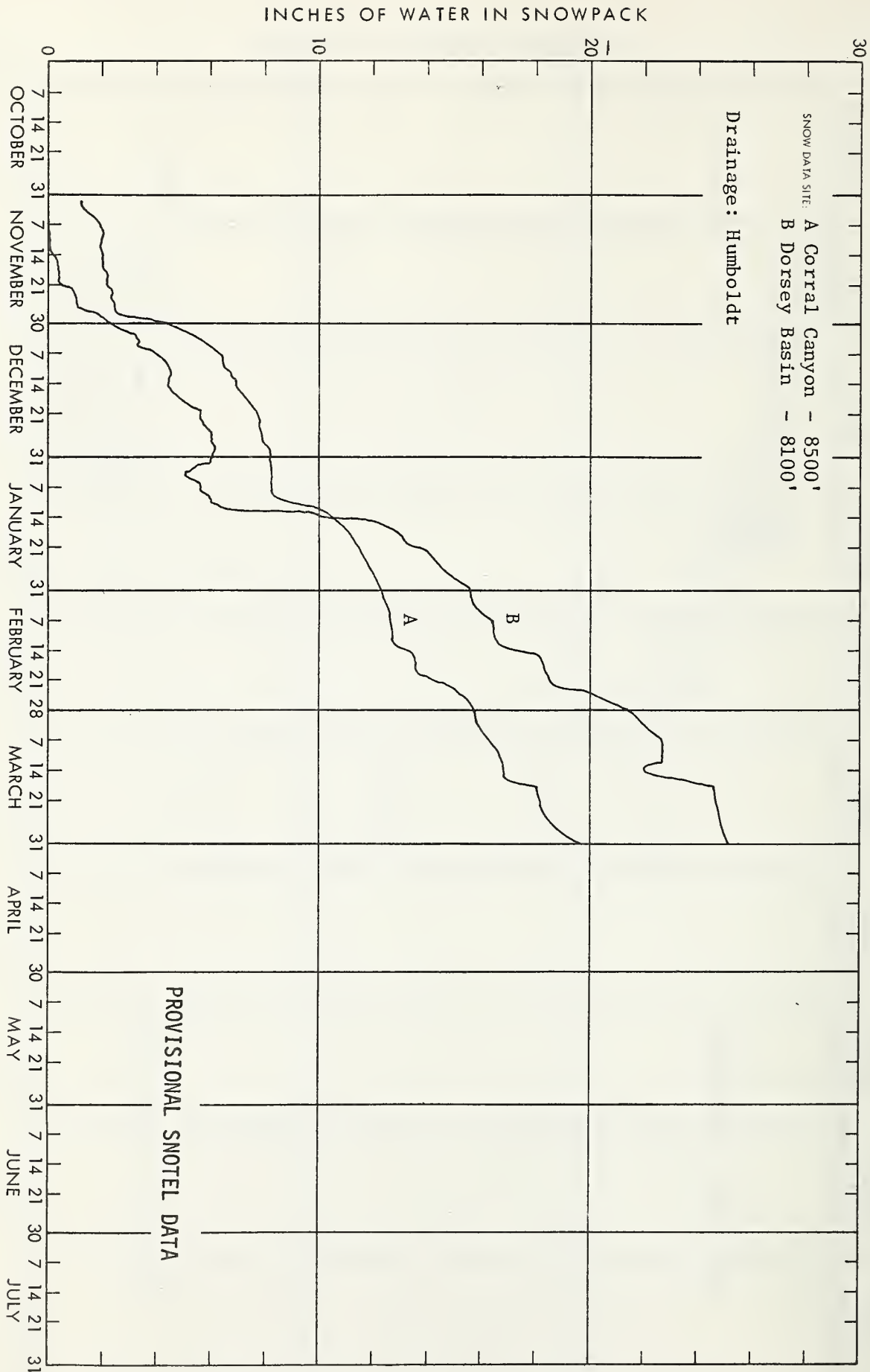
INCHES OF WATER IN SNOWPACK



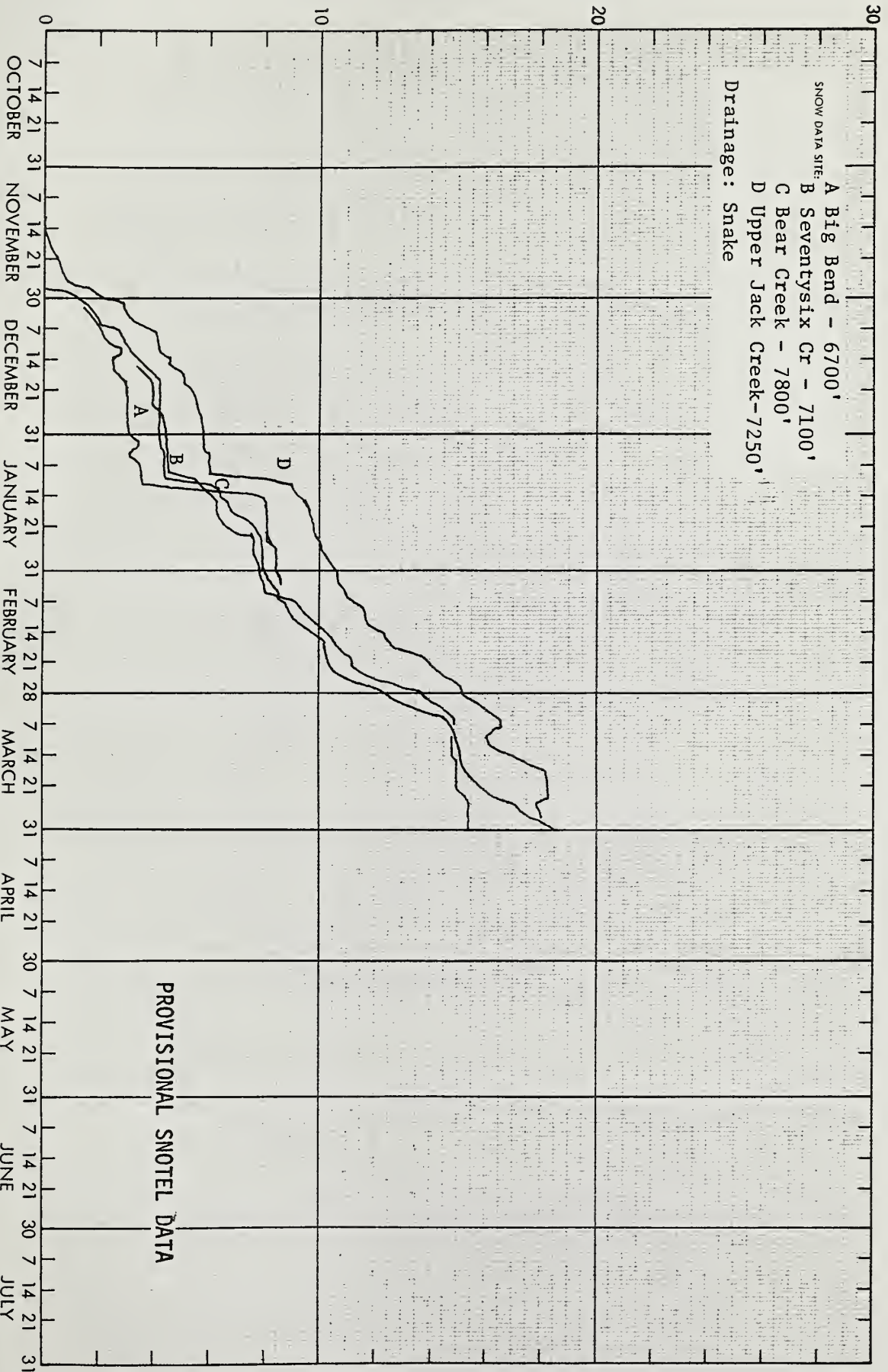


INCHES OF WATER IN SNOWPACK





# INCHES OF WATER IN SNOWPACK







## Agencies Cooperating in Collecting Data Contained in this Bulletin

### FEDERAL

- Agricultural Research Service
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- Forest Service
- Geological Survey
- Navy
- Soil Conservation Service
- U. S. District Court - Federal Water Master
- NOAA, National Weather Service

### STATE

- California Cooperative Snow Surveys
- California Department of Parks and Recreation
- California Department of Water Resources
- Colorado River Commission of Nevada
- Idaho Cooperative Snow Surveys
- Nevada Association of Conservation Districts
- Nevada Department of Conservation & Natural Resources
  - Division of Water Resources
  - Nevada State Forester
- Oregon Cooperative Snow Surveys
- Utah Cooperative Snow Surveys
- White Mountain Research Station, Univ. of California

### PRIVATE

- Amalgamated Sugar Company
- Kennecott Copper Corporation
- Nevada Irrigation District
- Owyhee Project North Board of Control
- Owyhee Project South Board of Control
- Pacific Gas and Electric Company
- Pershing County Water Conservation District
- Sierra Pacific Power Company
- Truckee-Carson Irrigation District
- Walker River Irrigation District
- Washoe County Water Conservancy District

Other organizations and individuals furnish valuable information for the snow survey reports. Their Cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.

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## FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS

Furnishes the basic data  
necessary for forecasting  
water supply for irrigation,  
domestic and municipal water  
supply, hydro-electric power  
generation, navigation,  
mining and industry

*"The Conservation of Water begins  
with the Snow Survey"*